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APPLICATION NO./ FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. PATENT IN REEXAMINATION

09/153,838

09/15/98

WILS

005487 HM12/0720 AVENTIS PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. PATENTS DEPARTMENT ROUTE 202-206, P.O. BOX 6800 BRIDGEWATER NJ 08807-0800

ART UNIT PAPER

18

1636

DATE MAILED: 07/20/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

See attached

Application/Control Number: 09/153,838

Art Unit: 1636

All claims are allowable. However, due to a potential interference, ex parte prosecution is SUSPENDED INDEFINITELY. Applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application after a period of 6 months has elapsed from the mailing of this letter if no further communication has been received.

Certain papers related to this application may be submitted to Art Unit 1636 by facsimile transmission. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notices published in the Official Gazette, 1156 OG 61 (November 16, 1993) and 1157 OG 94 (December 28, 1993)(see 37 CFR § 1.6(d)). The Art Unit 1636 Fax number is (703) 305-7939. NOTE: If Applicant *does* submit a paper by fax to this number, the examiner must be notified promptly, to ensure matching of the faxed paper to the application file, and the original signed copy should be retained by Applicant or Applicant's representative. (703) 308-4242 or (703) 305-3014 may be used without notification of the examiner, with such faxed papers being handled in the manner of mailed responses. Applicants are encouraged to use the latter two fax numbers unless immediate action by the examiner is required, e.g., during discussions of claim language for allowable subject matter. NO DUPLICATE COPIES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED so as to avoid the processing of duplicate papers in the Office.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner with respect to the examination on the merits should be directed to James Ketter whose telephone number is (703) 308-1169. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:00-6:30) Alternate Fridays Off.

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Questions regarding formalities and processing of the case should be directed to Zeta Adams, whose telephone number is (703) 305-3291.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's acting supervisor, John LeGuyader, can be reached at 308-0447. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-7939 for regular communications and (703) 305-7939 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 308-1234.

jsk July 18, 2001

JAMES KERTER PRINARY EXAMINER

> // JAMES KETTER PRIMARY EXAMINER